

Why Should We Be in NLTS2?

NLTS2 will help improve education, programs, and special services across the country. To do this, it is very important that NLTS2 represent young people with all kinds of backgrounds, abilities, and school programs. Your family's unique experiences, along with those of other families nationwide, will provide a comprehensive picture of education and its long-term benefits. Using your input, we will be able to recommend improvements to programs and policies that help our youth have positive school and early adult experiences.

How Were We Chosen for This Study?

To represent students throughout the United States, about 500 districts and special schools were selected by scientific sampling methods. These districts and schools sent us lists of their students. From these lists, about 13,000 students were chosen randomly. Because it is a national study, only a small number of youth from any one school or district can take part.

Who Will See The Information We Give?

Everything we learn will be completely private. We will not share information with the school, the school district, the state, or the federal government in any way that identifies individual students, parents or guardians, schools, or school districts.

What Activities Are Involved?



NLTS2 has several parts. We hope you will take part in all of them, but you can choose to take part in any or all of the following:

•Telephone interviews.

Parents or guardians will be interviewed by telephone about the experiences of their student and family. Youth who are able to complete a telephone interview also will be interviewed about their experiences. You will be contacted for an interview this spring, and then again every 2 years through 2009.

•School staff surveys. For each NLTS2 student, a teacher and another school staff member who knows the student's school program will be asked to complete a mail survey. The principal also will be asked to provide general information about the student's school and its policies. These surveys will take place in the spring of 2002 and 2004 for all youth who are still in school during those years.

•Transcripts. Transcripts will be requested from schools so that NLTS2 can describe the classes students take and how well they do in school. Beginning in the spring of 2002, transcripts will be collected every year, until students have left school.

•Direct assessments. An assessment that shows how well the student reads and understands math and other subjects will be given by a trained professional. Students will be interviewed about their satisfaction with school. It will take about an hour and will be given only once, in the spring of either 2002 or 2004, when a student is between 16 and 18 years old. The assessment will be done at a time that is convenient for the student and, in most cases, at his or her school. You will be told when the assessment has been scheduled. If the form or content of this assessment is not appropriate for the student, accommodations will be made, or an alternate assessment will be given.

What's the Study About?

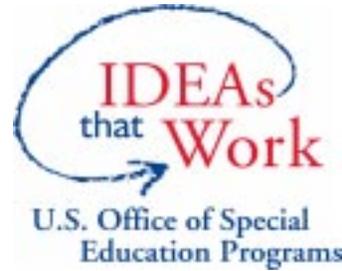
The National Longitudinal Transition Study-2 (NLTS2) is an exciting, important study being conducted for the U.S. Department of Education. It includes thousands of youth nationwide who are ages 13 through 17 at the start of the study. We will follow the progress of these youth by collecting information at different times over the next 9 years from parents, youth, and schools. The result will be a national picture of the experiences and achievements of young people that will guide future educational policy and programs and ultimately help our youth achieve success in adult life.

Do We Have a Choice?

Of course you have a choice! Your participation is completely voluntary, but we strongly encourage you to take part. After you read about NLTS2, we think you will want to be part of this important and exciting study.

Who Is Conducting This Study?

SRI International, with help from Westat, two large and respected research organizations that have been conducting research for many years, are conducting this study for the U.S. Department of Education.



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National Longitudinal Transition Study 2



**BE PART OF THIS IMPORTANT STUDY
ON THE FUTURE OF YOUTH!**